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# **Illinois Displaced Homemaker Program Directory**

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**Illinois Network for Displaced Homemakers  
Sangamon State University  
Springfield, IL 62794-9243**

## Why do Displaced Homemaker Centers exist?

Having fulfilled the role of homemaker, thousands of women find themselves displaced because of the dissolution of a marriage, the death of a spouse, ineligibility for public assistance, or other loss of family income. They often lack the job skills or employment experience needed to enter the paid work force; yet they must work to survive.

In 1977, recognizing that there continued to be an increase in the number of displaced homemakers in the state,\* the Illinois General Assembly passed the Displaced Homemaker Assistance Act. The act established two centers to help these women make the transition from homemaker to breadwinner.

Since that time 10 additional centers have been established. These 12 state-funded centers located throughout Illinois are committed to helping these women achieve economic independence and become financially contributing members of society. Working with the centers is the Illinois Network for Displaced Homemakers, a statewide information and referral clearinghouse.

By calling the Network's toll-free number, a woman can find out what services are available in her area. The Network also provides technical assistance to the 12 centers and to other agencies who serve displaced homemakers. In addition it publishes a newsletter and other materials and maintains a lending library of materials on issues affecting the displaced homemaker population.

The centers and the Network receive state general revenue monies administered by the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs. Centers also receive vocational education funds that enable them to help displaced homemakers with such support services as child care, transportation and tuition.

\*A recent report by the national Displaced Homemakers Network shows that there are more than 632,000 displaced homemakers in Illinois, and over 11 million in the U.S.



## **What services are provided by Displaced Homemaker Centers?**

Displaced homemaker programs throughout the state provide a variety of job search skills and counseling services. Although the extent of services may vary from program to program, all assistance is aimed at helping displaced homemakers become successful in the paid work force.

Programs offer the following services:

### **JOB SEARCH SKILLS**

Job Readiness Workshops, which include topics such as resume writing, interviewing techniques and assessment of homemaking and volunteer skills; assertiveness training; stress and time management; and survival skills while on the job.

### **COUNSELING**

Personal counseling and support groups, which help displaced homemakers develop better coping skills and more positive self-esteem; assistance in setting personal goals; and career exploration, including individual assessments of interests and skills.

### **REFERRAL**

Identification of local community agencies, including domestic violence, legal, financial and child care services; and health care facilities.

### **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

Identification of local education and training programs, including GED, adult and vocational education programs; apprenticeships; and community college and university programs.

### **JOB DEVELOPMENT AND PLACEMENT**

Educating local business and industry about the merits of employing displaced homemakers; and assistance in the job search process, including the identification of local employers who know the value of hiring displaced homemakers.

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# Where are Displaced Homemaker Centers

## **1 Women Employed Institute**

22 West Monroe, Suite 1400  
**Chicago, IL 60603**  
Phone: **312/782-3902**  
Contact: Linda Hannah

## **2 Project Impact**

3201 West 63rd Street  
**Chicago, IL 60629**  
Phone: **312/436-0550**  
Contact: Rochelle King

## **3 Suddenly Single**

Community Service Council  
of Northern Will County  
201 Normantown Road  
**Romeoville, IL 60441**  
Phone: **815/886-3324**  
Contact: Gloria Hollister

## **4 Alternatives**

Elgin Community College  
Fountain Square Campus  
51 S. Spring Street  
**Elgin, IL 60120**  
Phone: **708/888-7679/7677**  
Contact: Cindy Moehrlin

## **5 Project Turning Point**

Harper College  
Algonquin & Roselle Roads  
**Palatine, IL 60067**  
Phone: **708/397-3000**, x 2560  
Contact: Rena Trevor

## **6 Fresh Beginnings**

Rock Valley College  
3350 North Bell School  
Road  
**Rockford, IL 61111**  
Phone: **815/654-4495**  
Contact: Nancy Conner

## **7 Black Hawk College**

3430 23rd Avenue  
**Moline, IL 61265**  
Phone: **309/797-5017**  
Contact: Kathy Kessler

## **8 Tri-County Urban League**

317 South MacArthur  
Highway  
**Peoria, IL 61605**  
Phone: **309/673-7474**  
Contact: Annie Gordon

## **9 Richland Community College**

One College Park  
**Decatur, IL 62521**  
Phone: **217/875-7200**  
Contact: Kathy Sorensen

## **10 Lincoln Land Community College**

Shepherd Road  
**Springfield, IL 62794-9256**  
Phone: **217/786-2335**  
Contact: Lanette Nies

## **11 Olney Central College**

305 North West  
**Olney, IL 62450**  
Phone: **618/395-4351**, x 2214  
Contact: Pam Schwartz

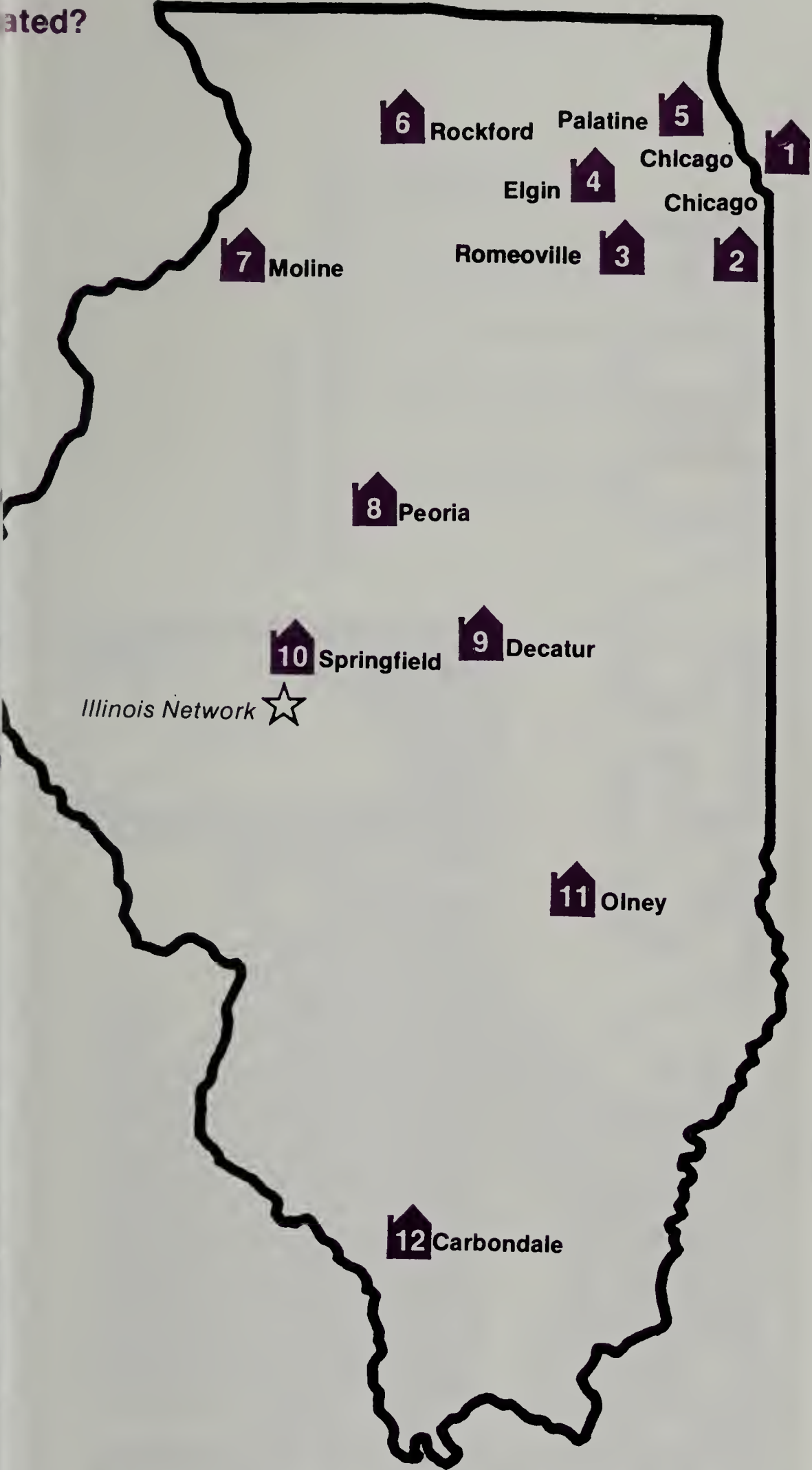
## **12 Southern Illinois University**

Evaluation & Developmental  
Center  
500-C Lewis Lane  
**Carbondale, IL 62901**  
Phone: **618/453-2331**  
Contact: Ruth Ramey

**Illinois Network for  
Displaced Homemakers**  
Sangamon State University  
**Springfield, IL 62794-9243**  
Phone: **217/786-6016**,  
**1-800/252-4822**  
Fax **217/786-7188**  
Contact: Jenice Kibby



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**800/252/4822**

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This brochure is a product of the Illinois Network for Displaced Homemakers and is paid for by a grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs. For further information concerning the department's funding of displaced homemaker programs, contact Jill Halverson at 217/785-6036.

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